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Here But Not Here

LIVING IN HEAVEN EVEN WHILE ON EARTH

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All scriptures are taken from the NIV (New International Version) of the Bible.

Introduction

The mystery of the mind of man is great and it's something that needs careful attention.

What does the Bible mean when it says “Since we have been raised with Christ, we should set our hearts on things above and not on earthly things”?

In this mini book, we want to discuss the reality that man can be on earth bodily but the reality is that he is not on earth. This is more like an article rather than a full book.

What is the mind?

The mind of man is where the reality of everything he can ever do in this world is birthed. What this means is that the mind is the power house that enables anything to be carried out in this body. The mind is where a man thinks, reflects, judges and pictures the consequence of what he intends to do. And by extension, the mind is where spirits can whisper thoughts to a man.

So how does the mind help in actualizing the reality of living in Heaven even while on Earth?

Ever understood the meaning of “All inhabitants of the earth will worship the beast – all those whose names have not been written in the lamb’s book of life belonging to the **Lamb that was slain from the creation of the world**” **Revelation. 13:8** ?

The emphasis in the above scripture is “**Lamb that was slain from the creation of the world**”. As we read the story of the creation of the world by God, we see that God created the heavens and the earth and created man lastly to have dominion over everything in the world. From Adam (the first man), we read stories of many people in many generations before the birth of Jesus Christ.

In **Matthew 1:17**, the Bible says: Thus there were fourteen generations in all from Abraham to David, fourteen from David to the exile to Babylon, and fourteen from the exile to the Christ. In this particular scripture, we are not told about how many

generations from Adam to Abraham. But we can see how many from Abraham down to the Christ. Now one may ask: “If these generations came before the Christ”, how can the Bible in **Revelation 13:8** say that he was slain from the creation of the world?

Notice that the Bible does not say “**he will be slain**” but that “**he was slain**”. But in physical reality, we see that Christ came and died for the sins of the whole world after many generations.

The truth is that if we believe God as God; as the one who knows the end from the beginning and as the one who can live in tomorrow, for it is written that a thousand years is like a day and a day is like thousand years with the Lord **2 Peter 3:8**, then we must believe that even before God created man, he already knew that man was going to disobey him. And based on his laws, he would need someone to die in his stead because the law is already written that he who sins shall die.

From this, we can see that it was already in the heart of God that his son Jesus Christ was going to die for the sin of man. But the question still is: **why would the Bible say he was slain from the creation?** Because it is after many generations that he actually came into the world and was crucified.

The reality is that since that was already settled in the mind of God, in God’s sight it was done already. Remember **Proverbs 4:23** that says: Guard your heart with all diligence for out of it comes issues of life? That means the issues of life does not come from me breaking a plate in the kitchen but from the distraction that was in my mind that led to breaking the plate.

The point of the story

The point of the story is to show that man can live in heaven even while on earth. But how does this story relate to that?

You see, since it was in the heart of the father to slay Jesus Christ for the sin of the whole world and even though Christ came to the world after many generations but the scripture says he was slain from the beginning of the world. It then means that if by constant training by the spirit of God, we are able to **fix our thoughts on Jesus Christ. Hebrews 3:1**, who is in heaven, it’s a matter of time we can live in heaven while on earth.

More of how to verify this reality

The Bible says: **So we fix our eyes not on what is seen but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary but what is unseen is eternal. 2 Corinthians 4:18.** The truth is that the eyes here refer to the eyes of the spirit not the physical eyes we see the world with. Do you know that you can be looking at something physically but your attention is completely not on that? When such happen, if somebody asks you to explain what you were looking at, you may not be able to because even though you were looking at it, you were actually not seeing it in your mind.

This is the same thing with the reality of living in heaven even while on earth. When God train you to look at Jesus Christ all the time and wait on his perspective about anything, it's just a matter of time your life will start reflecting the reality that you are really seated with Christ in heavenly places.

How can man live in this reality?

The truth is that every single person in this world was borne in sin. For the scripture says: Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me. **Psalms 51:5.** It does not matter whether your father or mother was a pastor or a believer. Everybody borne into this world was a sinner at birth. Another scripture is **1 Corinthians 15:46** which says **“The spiritual did not come first, but the natural, and after that the spiritual.**

The very first point for starting this journey is acknowledging that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh, was crucified, died and was raised to life after three days and through him, mankind is now reconnected to God.

Have you ever accepted him as your personal Lord and Savior? If yes, congratulations. For that is the first step. If no, please pray this prayer with the whole of your heart: **Lord Jesus, I come to you today as a sinner. I acknowledge that on my own I can not be saved. I accept you today, acknowledging that you are the son of God. Come into my life and be my personal Lord and Saviour.**

Congratulations if you have prayed that prayer. Now believe that you have been translated from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of God's dear son.

That is the first step in experiencing this reality. What you are to expect now is the indwelling of the Holy Spirit who alone is able to transform man in experience (that is, not only in the realm of the spirit but even in this life). He will be your guide. Though getting to know him for yourself may not be easy. Because the

journey is largely going to be interaction with what you do not see with your naked eye but believe by faith. Reading the scriptures also to know the directions of his leadership is paramount for your growth. For the scriptures will tell you what to expect from his leadership and the kind of life he will not lead you to live.